

News in Brief

Volunteers sought

The Citizens' Committee to Protect the Elderly needs caring volunteers to be volunteer visitors, providing support and companionship to elderly residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Professional nurses are needed to volunteer for the information and guidance program. Volunteers are also needed for community service projects.

For information, call 498-8600, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mayor's benefit ball

Portsmouth's First Biannual Mayor's Benefit Ball will premiere at the new Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel and Conference Center Saturday, March 10 from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Proceeds from the formal affair will benefit the Portsmouth Schools Foundation and the Effingham Street YMCA. Gowns and tuxedos required.

The public is invited to attend. Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased by calling Debra White, Portsmouth City Clerk at 393-8639.

The cost is \$50 per person and includes dinner and dancing to "Big Band" music played by Swing Shift.

Womens' luncheon

The National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) Southeastern Virginia Chapter will hold its Second Annual Entrepreneurial Woman of the Year Awards Celebration luncheon Wednesday, March 28 from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the new Holiday Inn Select-Norfolk Airport hotel, 1570 N. Military Highway.

Sponsorships are still available and nominations are being sought now. The deadline for completed applications is Feb. 12.

For more information contact Lois Carter Fay at 259-9650.

Seeking crafters

The Chesapeake Jubilee, which will be held May 18-20 is seeking crafters.

Booth space is located under a tent and is approximately 10 feet by 10 feet. Space will include one table and two chairs. The cost will be \$125 per space.

For an application call 482-4848 or visit our web site, www.chesapeakejubilee.org.

Service award

Virginia Beach Commonwealth's Attorney, Harvey L. Bryant III, will present the seventh annual Consumer Service Recognition Award Saturday, Feb. 27 at 10 a.m. in the Marian Manor activity room at 5345 Marian Lane. The award is presented to say "thank you" to a citizen, media representative, or group that has assisted the Consumer Affairs Division or consumers in general in the fields of consumer protection or education. The 2000 recipient is Master Police Officer Bill Chambers.

Chambers is the TRIAD Coordinator for the Virginia Beach Police Department and has been presenting consumer education programs to senior citizens since 1998.

Game show musical

Morning Star Baptist Church, in honor of Black History presents "Afrikan Kingz & Queenz," written and directed by Sheri Bailey based on a concept by Earl Lewis Jr. and choreography by Charisse Minerva. The featured guests are Michael LeMelle, Regina Scott Sanford, James Hainsworth, Nita Hurt, Karl West, Crystal Sessions, Eric Lewis, Lovelle Jones and Crystal Jones as Cleopatra VII, Hannibal, Ruler of Carthage, Makeda, Queen of Sheba, Good King Karma, King Alfonso I, Nzingha, Amazon Queen of Maunaba.

The event starts at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25 at Morning Star Baptist at 4780 1st Court Rd. A \$5 donation is requested. For more information, call 363-9698.

'Train Time'

Do you love the lure of the old railroads? Then join us as the Chesapeake Fine Arts Commission and the Tidewater Division of Model Railroaders presents the annual "Train Time" program March 2-3 at the Central Library at 298 Cedar Rd.

The program will be held from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., March 2 and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., March 3. Model railroads from the Tidewater Division will be displayed and running throughout the weekend. Train rides will be available for the young and young at heart.

The cost for a train ride is \$3 a ride. There will also be storytelling by Lynn Ruhlmann with music provided by folk singer, Bob Zentz.

The program is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in any program offered by the Chesapeake Public Library System. For more information or assistance, call the Chesapeake Central Library at 382-6591.

Council pares \$500 million in projects

The proposed \$266 million, nearly half the original plan, eliminates museum funding

By Lee Cahill
City Council Reporter

City Council agreed to fund \$266 million major projects and excluded the \$55 million Virginia Marine Science Museum expansion at least for the upcoming fiscal year.

The package which was proposed in a letter from Mayor Meyera Oberndorf and Vice Mayor William D. Sessions Jr. and approved by council includes:

■ The demolition and reconstruction of the Pavilion at the existing site at a total cost of \$193 million. The performance theater now in the Pavilion would have to be replaced which would cost \$15 and \$45 million. A potential for a private sector partner with a more expensive facility would bring the city's allocation for the theater to \$20 million for a total of \$213 million which includes a \$10 million grant from the state.

■ A \$3 million reserve for the museum for site acquisition and

development of additional parking for the museum.

■ Funding of \$80 million for the open space program of which \$30 million would be in debt and \$20 million in pay as you go funds.

Of the \$266 million total, \$236 million would be in debt which would be paid by an increase of 2 1/2 percent of the hotel tax, one percent of the meal tax and five cents on the cigarette tax.

The Marine Science Museum expansion, which has come under attack by animal rights groups because of the inclusion of a dolphin tank, was chopped off of the list because the city can't afford it. The Oberndorf/Sessions letter says that the proposed phase III expansion offers Virginia Beach "a great opportunity to continue to develop this educational cultural asset for the city. Unfortunately, the phase III expansion does not have a definite site and is not immediately affordable within

the context of other priorities before the city at this time.

Also among the major projects were sanitary sewer and storm water projects which would require increases in the sewer and storm water fees and can be revisited at any time. These projects are high on the list of priorities.

Rudee Loop was also among the major projects. In making its decision on the Pavilion, the city passed another hurdle, ruling out a new site in the area of the old site. Councilman Linwood Branch III also said that while nothing on the Dome site is included in the projects, the city should plan to acquire some of the property across 19th Street. He said he was concerned by possible development. He said that a physical link has been suggested and at present there is nothing there to accommodate pedestrians.

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A glimpse of spring

With flowers starting to bloom at Deep Creek Locks Park, spring can't be far off. Deep Creek Locks Park is located off of George Washington Highway in Chesapeake. —Photo by Richard Anderson

Portsmouth Mayor's Ball slated March 10

By Margaret Windley
Correspondent

Put on your best formal attire and you can dance the light fantastic at the first annual Mayor's Ball for Mayor James Holley in the main (upstairs) ball room at Portsmouth's Renaissance Hotel on March 10, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Tickets cost \$30 per person and guests will have the opportunity to dine and dance to the live big band sounds of Swing Shift.

Orders can be made with the City Clerk's Office through either Clerk Debra White or Monte Markham at 393-8639.

"It's like New Year's Eve for Portsmouth," said Claudia Cox-Wynne, who is one of the event planners.

"It's our big coming out. Everybody is really excited about the new hotel and the new hotel is called Portsmouth's Crown Jewel."

Profits from the event will go to the PSF (Portsmouth Schools Foundation) and the programs of the Effingham Street YMCA.

Councilman Charles Whitehurst, who is also involved in the planning process, explained that the profits from the ball would go to the general operating budgets of both the PSF and the YMCA.

However, Whitehurst added that PSF gives out "last dollar" scholarships to students (scholarships to help students go to college who could not otherwise do so) and grants to teachers, and the Effingham Street YMCA has a host of outreach programs that benefit the public.

"It's an outreach for those who can't handle the money for the programs," Whitehurst said.

But most of all, he was also enthusiastic about the upcoming ball.

"I think this offers an opportunity for Portsmouth to celebrate," Whitehurst said.

"We have been hard at work as a city and a council trying to have this Renaissance in the city of Portsmouth. We have taken what was a challenge and made an opportunity out of it."

Eddie Murphy's childhood friend visits Beach

Harris Haith promotes soon-to-be-released book on his early days with Murphy

By Jason Norman
Correspondent

Everyone knows Eddie Murphy as the host of the popular "Saturday Night Live" sketch, "Mr. Robinson's Neighborhood."

We all remember him as the foul-mouthed Axel Foley in the Beverly Hills Cop movies. Recently, we saw him by half a dozen different names and faces in The Nutty Professor.

But Harris Haith knows just a little bit more than most. Haith doesn't just know Murphy the person.

"I've known Eddie since he was 10," recalls the native of Long Island, N.Y. "We grew up in the Roosevelt section of town. He lived in my house, and I lived in his. We found out that we were distant cousins, but we'd already been best friends for a long time."

"I have so many memories of my years with Eddie," he said. "We used to travel on the train to Manhattan to see movies, and do all sorts of things together. He's a really great guy, and I'm trying to show that in my book."

Haith's literary creation is entitled "Growing Up Laughing With Eddie Murphy." Soon-to-be-available at Barnes & Noble locations around the world, the book tells the story of the journey of two friends through childhood, adolescence and adulthood to the world of entertainment. On Wednesday night, the author held a book signing at the Chesapeake Public Library.

"I was with Eddie on the 'Lord Have Murphy,' comedy tour in the late 1980s," Haith said. "Everyone kept asking me, 'What was Eddie like as a child?' I tried to condense our lives into my book."

One of Haith's favorite stories takes place in Newburg, New York. "We had gone there for a family outing," he said. "We could smell gas in the house we were in. My mother was complaining about the smell, so she finally called someone to come look at it."

"When the man arrived, he went down into the basement and shut the door behind him. Eddie and I were standing near the door. All of a sudden we heard this huge explosion.

BOOM! We ran over to the door, and the man walked out, his clothes smoking and his face all singed. But after we found out he was all right, everyone in the house, including him, was almost on the floor laughing."

"That's one of many tales in Murphy's novel, currently being made into a movie."

"The movie's generating lots of excitement in the industry," he said. "I thought that I was going to have to handle most of it, but lots of people have been contacting me. This is going to be great."

Indeed, Haith is a good friend of one of America's most well-known personalities. But he's carved out quite a niche for himself in the industry as well. Known as "The Total Entertainer," Haith has released two best-selling rhythm and blues/jazz albums, and runs a clothing line, "Cold Below Zero." He also wrote the screenplay for the recent independent film, "Starks Coalition."

"When I was in school, I used to host talent

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A MURPHY MOMENT. Harris Haith, childhood friend of Eddie Murphy, appeared in Virginia Beach. —Photo by Jason Norman

Commentary

AMERICAN HEART MONTH

Be a heartsaver

When someone goes into cardiac arrest, it becomes a desperate race against the clock to save his or her life. Every minute — every second — counts. Tragically, each day in America, several hundred cardiac arrest victims die before they reach the hospital.

February is American Heart Month, during which the American Heart Association is urging all Americans to help improve the national cardiac arrest survival rate by taking quick action when faced with a cardiac arrest emergency.

Cardiac disease is the number one cause of death among Americans annually, killing more than the next seven leading causes of death combined. Cardiovascular disease claims more than 959,000 lives in the U.S. each year — 41.4 percent of all deaths, or one of every 2.4 deaths.

That means more than 2,600 Americans die each day of cardiovascular disease, an average of one every 33 seconds.

Time is critical to saving lives.

The theme for American Heart Month is "Be an American Heartsaver!" Doing one's part is as simple as three steps:

■ **Know the warning signs of heart attack.** Then you can recognize a medical emergency when it occurs. The signs of heart attack are uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest lasting more than a few minutes; pain spreading to the neck, shoulders or arms; and chest discomfort with lightheadedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath. The symptoms of cardiac arrest are different: the person collapses and loses consciousness, stops normal breathing and loses pulse or blood pressure.

■ **Call 911.** Upon recognizing any heart attack or cardiac arrest symptoms, call 911 immediately to access the emergency medical system. Too many people go through denial and, as a result, wait too long before seeking medical attention.

■ **Give CPR.** Give cardiopulmonary resuscitation because it can keep the cardiac arrest victim alive until emergency helps arrives. CPR is important because it maintains vital blood flow to the heart and brain, which helps sustain the victim until defibrillation can be administered.

Since 70 to 80 percent of all cardiac arrest emergencies occur in the home, knowing CPR can save the life of a loved one. More than 95 percent of Americans who suffer cardiac arrest die before reaching the hospital, which equates to 250,000 deaths annually. The American Heart Association estimates that at least 50,000 of these could be saved if those knowing CPR could be increased from the current 5 percent to 20 percent.

Knowing CPR is the key.

During the season of hearts, taking this "heartsaving" and loving step is vital. — C.E.C.

Goodbye

It has been quite a few trips to the printing press since the *Virginia Beach Sun* first began publishing the news of our neighborhood.

A lot has changed in the intervening years, most notably the growth of our community into a large urban center where the boundaries between cities are indistinguishable.

As each locality in Hampton Roads has worked hard to maintain its own identity, the benefits to each of working together for the betterment of the entire region has somewhat softened the very things that made each one a unique place.

The melting pot that has become Hampton Roads also lessened the viability of a community newspaper. That was the primary reason for our decision to suspend publication of the *Virginia Beach Sun*.

We have appreciated the loyal patronage of our readers for years, but the numbers have declined. Refund checks have been sent to every subscriber. If you have not yet received yours, call our office, 547-4571.

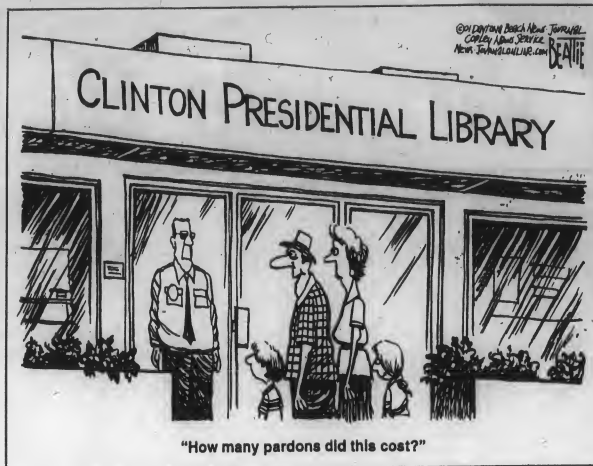
This final edition contains no fanfare nor farewells. Just as we quietly went about the business of keeping the neighborhood informed of the everyday events, so too does this edition go to press.

Thank-you all for the patronage. Hopefully, we will meet again down the road. — J.W.B.

Letters to the Editor

We welcome letters to the editor from readers who wish to reflect upon or take issue with other views. That's what this page is for, the sharing of opinions: yours, ours and those of our columnists and cartoonists.

Please share your thoughts with fellow readers by faxing to 548-0390. The writer's name, address and telephone number must be included. We do not print unsigned letters. We reserve the right to edit. Thank you.



Letter to the editor

Portsmouth community faces loss of coverage of local affairs

Editor:

It is sad for Portsmouth that two of its community newspapers have folded in less than a year. Last autumn, with the death of Editor-Publisher Bess Krupf, *Port Cities Concerns* ended more than 15 years of providing local monthly coverage to civic and cultural events often overlooked or ignored by our one metropolitan newspaper. Now, our Portsmouth community faces a loss of its *Portsmouth Times* which has always been generous in its weekly coverage of local/neighborhood affairs.

As a now-retired activist with organizations such as the Hodges Ferry Civic League, Girls Inc. Center for Youth, "GRIP," Government Reform in Portsmouth, Friends of the Library and the Wesley Community Center, I wish to express our deepest appreciation for the myriad efforts by the staff of *The Portsmouth Times* on behalf of our urban core city. Already, we miss you; and wish all of your staff good fortune in the days ahead.

J. Brewer Moore
Portsmouth

Our Republic — love it or lose it

It is only fitting that I leave the readers of the *Chesapeake Post*, *Virginia Beach Sun* and *Portsmouth Times* the way I began it with a plea for citizen action. Only if we take our



Perspectives

By Eileen Huey,
columnist

government back, locally, statewide and nationally, will our constitutional republic stand the test of time. Every republic in human history has eventually collapsed, not by attack from without but from corruption from

within. That corruption is always the result of oligarchic power gradually replacing that of the general will of the citizenry. To succeed, those with financial clout must first control public opinion. Therefore, there is nothing more dangerous to our republic than the widespread corporatization of our media, from print broadsheets and magazines to the airways, especially television.

The best evidence that our press has become little more than monolithic mouthpiece is seen everyday in the "pile-on" reporting that surrounds every so-called major story. Notice that the targets of journalistic attacks (on TV and in print) are never the big corporate powers or their lobbyists that pull all the strings in Washington and our statehouses. Those kinds of exposes are long gone now that those same corporate powers produce the

broadcasts and write the paychecks of journalists and editors alike.

America's democratic institutions were similarly threatened by the barons of industry at the end of the last century. Maybe it's a test we must pass every 100 years or so, whether we need to or not. But this time around, we the people are flunking, at least so far. This is largely because the modern day robber barons are winning the public relations war by tugging folks into thinking that campaign finance reform is just some insider battle between Democrats and Republicans.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Oligarchs couldn't care less which party label is worn by their puppets. They only care that they can manipulate public policy to suit their self-interest no matter which political party holds the reins of power.

Peace is achieved through compromise

If we want to live in peace, we must all do our part in trying to understand others.

fight resumes.

One of the major causes of war between nations is the desire on the part of the aggressor nation to improve its economic status by taking resources from other nations. Major causes of civil wars within nations are conflicting ideas and values, and struggles for power between conflicting groups.

Dis Harmony in families often results from arguments over money and attempts by some family members to impose their will on other members of the family.

It seems to be almost human nature to want to impose our wills on others. Most of us are far too selfish. We focus most of our attention on what we want from life

without considering how getting what we want will affect others.

For harmony to exist in a family, every member must make an effort to understand the needs and wants of other members of the family, and try to find compromise solutions where conflict exists. For peace to exist in the world, every nation must try to understand the needs and wants of the world community as well as those of individual nations.

If we want to live in peace, we must all do our part in trying to understand others. At home, in the workplace and in the community, we must learn to focus on the well being of the group as a whole as well as on our own individual well being.

In other words, we must learn to care about others as well as ourselves. And we must be willing to make compromises. Think about it.

Editor's note: Allen W. Smith is a syndicated columnist from Naples, Fla., who focuses on the individual and daily life.



Let Japan pay for raising own ship

I had planned to use this my last column to reflect back on past columns that I have written over the last 20 years. It would have been rather soft with a melancholy tone, but I came in with runs smoking and I

intended to finish up this way. Frankly I'm mad as hell over the way the Japanese continue to jerk this country around like a puppet on a string. The latest are the demands being made as a result of the sinking of the Japanese fishing vessel

The Real World

By E.J. Sessions, senior columnist.

bor. Isn't it ironic that a U.S. submarine would sink a Japanese ship at that location?

Many have forgotten, but I remember well when the ancestors of those crewmen aboard that Japanese ship pulled a cowardly sneak attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941, sinking or damaging 18 U.S. ships and killing 163 with 43 missing and 336 wounded with damages of \$500,000.

I also remember the Bataan Death March when the Japanese tortured and murdered thousands of American and Allied soldiers, sailors and marines. I also remember the Kamikaze attacks that sank many American ships killing thousands of Americans. I remember the way the Japanese tortured and murdered marines that they had captured in the jungles of the Pacific. I remember how the American taxpayer rebuilt Japan after World War II, only to have them turn on us at every opportunity.

Along with Russia, France and China they opposed the recent bombing of Iraq, and they want to run us completely out of the Pacific so that we will once again be vulnerable to a sneak attack.

Why should U.S. taxpayers pay to raise the Japanese ship that was sunk at Pearl Harbor? Perhaps Japan should be made to pay for U.S. ships that were sunk there. It has been reported on the news that the U.S. Navy plans to bring a Japanese naval officer to sit in on the inquiry of the sinking of the Japanese ship.

They did the same thing to Capt. John McVay when his ship the USS Indianapolis was sunk by a Japanese submarine during World War II. They brought the captain of the ship to testify against Capt. McVay.

I guess perhaps I have too many memories of how brutal the Japanese were to those Americans who served and died during World War II.

It's easy for those who know nothing about it to say, "Let's forgive and forget."

But it's not easy for me to do that with the memories of bodies washing ashore and the white crosses that mark the graves of my buddies that were left on those Pacific Islands.

We owe the Japanese nothing. Let them pay for raising the ship. They can afford it.

Welcome to the real world.

The Virginia Beach Sun

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Other Byrly Publications newspapers: The Chesapeake Post, The Portsmouth Times, The Tidewater News, The Brunswick Times-Gazette, The Independent Messenger, The Dinwiddie Monitor, The Portsmouth Monitor.

Struggling with homesickness

There are many kinds of sicknesses.

There are motion sickness, airsickness, seasickness, etcetera.



Today's Challenge

By Dr. Ray O. Jones, Lee Memorial Baptist Church pastor.

In many forms of sicknesses, there are some similarities, but there is one sickness unlike any other.

It uniquely stands alone.

There is no medicine or shots one can take to cure it.

It simply must be endured, only time will help.

You wonder what kind of sickness you have in mind. It is homesickness. Most of us have suffered from it, endured it, but few have ever admitted struggling with this common sickness. Someone has aptly said that if hell were nothing but eternal homesickness, it would still be hell.

Homesickness is popular when

It is a deep, gnawing feeling which at times may be followed by tears, nausea and depression.

young people go off to college, or perhaps military service. They are young, brave and strong, but so very susceptible to that indefinable thing we call homesickness.

It is a deep, gnawing feeling which at times may be followed by tears, nausea and depression. Young people try to conceal homesickness for fear it may betray their maturity.

The side effect of homesickness plagues parents. Parents return home to face empty closets, the empty chair at the table, the immaculate floor with no old shoes or pants strewn around.

Pictures of the mantle seem to whisper to them, "Why are you crying?" All is strangely quiet now, even the tears which noisily flow.

It is a difficult experience for the parents and their children, but it is necessary and we must face it.

Having taught them to live without us, we must release them and let them go.

Time will help parents to overcome the sickness. Forget the aspirations. Just wait. And good luck.

Council takes new view of police surveillance

By Lee Cahill
City Council Reporter

Councilman Robert C. Mandigo, whose regular job is investigating financial criminal investigations, told City Council at a work session Tuesday that he was satisfied that the plain clothes police surveillance of Dolphin Liberty meetings was a criminal investigation, not a political investigation.

The infiltration of the meetings was seen as an effort by the police in support of the expansion of the Virginia Marine Science Museum which would have made the action political.

Mandigo said that he believed the police did not announce the investigation because they were trying to

be alert to a potential situation.

He said, however, that he was glad to see the issue resolved.

A new policy will require police to consult with the Commonwealth's Attorney's office before conducting surveillance on "associations or advocacy groups not associated with organized criminal activity."

Police have said they were concerned about a person or person from elsewhere who could present a danger to the community. Dolphin Liberty has opposed the construction of a dolphin tank.

Councilwoman Nancy Parker said that the reaction to the police department was "harsh," and that there was a bigger issue.

Projects for beach get cut by nearly half

Continued from Page 1

Obendorf said that last week council was clear that anything that had not been discussed before should be included. If council decides to go in this direction, City Manager James K. Spore said, he will look into the property.

Councilwoman Robin McClanahan said that she thought it would be better not to put aside the \$3 million for parking and to start fresh with the museum.

She said, too, that if council was talking about a community art theater, it should be one that produces some money and the location should be open. She said that she wants to see the costs.

Mandigo said that the theater would be

for the citizens primarily and that there may be an existing theater in the city that can be used. If the city is looking for something to compete in the region, he said, that's a different story.

He added that "if we had money I would support the Marine Science Museum expansion."

Councilwoman Margaret Eare said that the theater is necessary and that she was glad something was left in for the museum. McClanahan said that did not think the way the city is doing drainage projects is good. She said that drainage in some neighborhoods had been stopped although money was included in the budget for these projects.

Haith, long-time Eddie Murphy friend, speaks at Beach club

Continued from Page 1

shows," he said. "During the times between performances, such as when the bands were setting up, I'd get on the stage and sing or tell jokes. My teachers and friends just started calling me the 'total entertainer,' and the name stuck."

"The beginning of my songwriting career is a great story," Haith smiles. "My friend Curtis Combo and I recorded a rhythm and blues song called 'Lock it Up,' at a studio in 1989. For the next six months, we played it for all our friends, until everyone got completely tired of it."

One weekend night, Haith was lying in his bed, listening to WBL's New York, one of the most well-known R&B stations in the world. Suddenly, he heard a familiar tune.

"Yes, my song was on the radio," he laughs. "A few seconds later, everyone on the block was running down the street, yelling, 'Hey, Harris, your song's on

WBL!"

Haith also managed former two-time WBA Middleweight champion Steve "Lightning" Little. "During my music career, I had a bad break with management, so I started taking courses on how to manage myself," he explains. "Steve had had some bad breaks himself, so he contacted me, and I managed him from 1994 to 1999."

During that time, Haith became close to legendary boxing promoter Don King. "Don King and I have a long history together," he asserts. "He is first class all the way. He's going to do a documentary on the making of our movie for Showtime."

The book will soon be available at Barnes and Noble locations around the world. For those that don't live near such stores, the book dealer can be reached at 1-800-839-8640. The book can also be purchased online at www.1stbooks.com.

Up close and personal

Dr. James J. Stark; 'Michelangelo' of medicine

By Bobbie Whitehead
Editor

Dr. James J. Stark knows it when he sees it. That is, the oncologist and medical director of the Cancer Treatment Centers of America in Old Towne knows cancer.

After all, he's spent the past 23 years studying various types from Hodgkin's Disease to breast and lung cancer.

People know him for his work, too. Word that Stark specializes in treating cancer has, at times, interrupted time with his family.

"Once while my family and I had dinner in Norfolk, a man came over to the table and sat down with us," Stark said. "He pulled out this piece of paper with some test results on it, and asked me if I'd explain it to him."

"My kids just sort of looked up in embarrassment."

But Stark says he doesn't mind the questions. In fact, most people, including many of his friends, seek his opinion and advice on health issues. He can't get away from that — even on vacation.

And he doesn't want to.

Stark's most recent diagnosis garnered national attention from both the medical and the literary art communities.

He wrote an article, "The Breast of Night: Michelangelo as Oncologist" in *The New England Journal of Medicine* in which he interprets a marble sculpture by Michelangelo as depicting signs of advanced cancer.

Stark and Dr. Jonathan K. Nelson, a New York University art history professor, focus on the left breast in Michelangelo's Night, a sculpture in the Medici Chapel of the Church of San Lorenzo in Florence, Italy.

"I've been doing this for so long, and most of my patients are those with breast cancer," said Stark, a Harvard University Medical School alumnus. "So when I looked at the sculpture, there it was. I whispered to my wife, 'That woman has breast cancer.'"

Stark admits that he hasn't had a life-long interest in art history.

But when he visited the four crypts with sculptures at the Florence church, he saw it.

"I was with a guy at the time who was stunned," Stark said. "People have been looking at the statue for 500 years, and no one's ever noticed it."

One thing's for sure, he said, the interpretation of the lump in the left breast changes the popularly held theories of Michelangelo and his view of women.

"The person buried in the crypt under this statue died an agonizing death," he said. "Michelangelo didn't make that breast that way by accident. He understood cancer as a metaphor for dying."

So for the next year, Stark, other oncologists and art historians tried to figure out if the people living during the Renaissance knew about cancer.

"Yes, they did," he said. "They knew it was a wasting disease, it caused lumps and would become horrible and grow."

Almost 40 percent of the patients Stark treats at the Portsmouth clinic are those with breast cancer — for this reason, he knew Michelangelo's lump wasn't random.

He began his cancer studies at the Barnes Jewish Hospital of the University of Washington in St. Louis in the 1970s.

Cancer research had burst with many new developments.

"That's when the new chemotherapy treatments were being introduced," he said. "It was an exciting time, sort of an explosion in the field."

When Stark isn't making a diagnosis or developing treatments for his patients, he's just like anyone else. He likes to play golf and dine out with his wife.

"You can't do what I do effectively, if you take it home with you," he said. "Anybody in this field needs time away from it."

"It's a very tough thing to do what I do."



Now, he grapples, at times, with the reality that some of his patients are his friends and his age.

"When I was 30 and everybody I saw was approaching 70, I didn't relate to them," he said. "But now I do."

Still, Stark says there's nothing as challenging or satisfying, "because you're helping people."

A few years into college, though, Stark wanted to become a famous musician.

"I came to my senses," he said.

Stark continuously conducts research and is now studying gene therapy and the use of antioxidants with chemotherapy.

"I think we've made tremendous advances," Stark said. "But we have a long way to go."

Name: James J. Stark, M.D.

What brought you to this area: A good practice opportunity. I became the first board-certified oncologist in this area 23 years ago.

Hometown: Fort Lee, N.J.

Age: 55.

Nickname: Jim.

Occupation: Physician (medical oncologist).

Marital Status: Married.

Children: John, 29, businessman; Madeline, 24, law school; Brian, 23, graduate school in electrical engineering (Ph.D. candidate).

Favorite movies: "Body Heat," "Men in Black," "Black Orpheus."

Favorite magazines: *The New England Journal of Medicine* and *New Yorker*.

Favorite authors: John Feinstein and Ha Jin.

Favorite night out on the town: Watching rented movies at home.

Favorite restaurant: Bistro.

Favorite meal: Crabcake at 219 (on Granby Street) and merlot.

Pets: Chocolate Labrador retriever, Buffy, age 8.

Hobbies: Golf, horseback riding and travel.

Ideal vacation: Golf and eating in Palm Beach.

First job: Intern in Internal Medicine.

Least liked job: Never had a bad job except busboy in Calskill Mountains in upstate New York while in college.

Favorite sports teams: New York Yankees.

Favorite musicians: J. Gilberto, Yoyo Ma, James Monhe.

How I would like to be remembered: As a loving husband and father.

If I received \$1 million: I'd spend more time in research and teaching.

If I had 10 minutes on national television: I would talk to people about improving their health.

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Military News

McCann

Navy Airman Evangelino McCann, daughter of Rosario O. and Patricia O. McCann of Plum Crescent, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, home-ported in Norfolk.

During the deployment, McCann's ship assisted in the recovery effort of Gulf Air Flight 072. After the plane crashed on its approach to Bahrain International Airport Aug. 23, more than 80 sailors and several boats from the aircraft carrier arrived at the scene to help. They included divers and swimmers from SEAL Team TWO, an explosive ordnance disposal team, search and rescue swimmers from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Warfare Squadron 15 and the ship's medical team.

McCann also visited cities in Croatia, Greece, Italy, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. During these visits sailors participated in community relations projects and had the opportunity to enjoy the local culture and cuisine.

While in Bahrain, USS George Washington sailors painted the Al Hitham Islamic School and the Saudi/Bahraini School for the Blind.

Carriers like USS George Washington are deployed around the world to maintain U.S. presence and provide rapid response in times of crisis. They serve as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors, and are equipped with the most versatile and powerful weapons and aircraft available.

McCann is a 1997 graduate of Green Run High School and joined the Navy in April 1998.

Taranto

Navy Chief Petty Officer Francis J. Taranto, son of Rose Swainoff of Malibu Pines Drive, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, home-ported in Norfolk.

During the deployment, Taranto's ship assisted in the recovery effort of Gulf Air Flight 072. After the plane crashed on its approach to Bahrain International Airport Aug. 23, more than 80 sailors and several boats from the aircraft carrier arrived at the scene to help. They included divers and swimmers from SEAL Team TWO, an explosive ordnance disposal team, search and rescue swimmers from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Warfare Squadron 15 and the ship's medical team.

Taranto also visited cities in Croatia, Greece, Italy, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. During these visits sailors participated in community relations projects and had the opportunity to enjoy the local culture and cuisine.

While in Bahrain, USS George Washington sailors painted the Al Hitham Islamic School and the Saudi/Bahraini School for the Blind.

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Taranto is a 1973 graduate of Riverhead High School of Riverhead and joined the Navy in January 1978.

Eikerenkoetter

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Carlos A. Eikerenkoetter, whose wife, Tonya, is the daughter of Brenda Brawner of Sailboat Lane, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, home-ported in Norfolk.

During the deployment, Eikerenkoetter's ship assisted in the recovery effort of Gulf Air Flight 072. After the plane crashed on its approach to Bahrain International Airport Aug. 23, more than 80 sailors and several boats from the aircraft carrier arrived at the scene to help. They included divers and swimmers from SEAL Team TWO, an explosive

ordnance disposal team, search and rescue swimmers from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Warfare Squadron 15 and the ship's medical team.

Eikerenkoetter also visited cities in Croatia, Greece, Italy, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. During these visits sailors participated in community relations projects and had the opportunity to enjoy the local culture and cuisine.

While in Bahrain, USS George Washington sailors painted the Al Hitham Islamic School and the Saudi/Bahraini School for the Blind.

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Ledoux

Navy Seaman Theresa M. Ledoux, daughter of Susan M. and Gene M. Ledoux of West Grove Circle, recently reported for duty at Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla.

Ledoux is a 1999 graduate of Bayside High School and joined the Navy in September 1999.

Bishop

Navy Hospitalman Recruit Michael T. Bishop, son of Annette A. Evin's of Delaney Street, recently graduated from the Basic Hospital Corps School at Naval Hospital Corps School in Great Lakes, Ill.

During the 14-week course, Bishop earned a wide range of medical procedures used to provide first aid and assist Navy doctors and nurses. Bishop also received an introductory instruction for service in a variety of medical environments, from fleet hospitals and shipboard medical departments to fleet Marine forces and medical administration offices.

Graduates' newly acquired skills and knowledge will enable them to help provide quality health care from Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families. Bishop's first assignment after school will involve direct patient care, but with his training, Bishop can work in several areas, including first aid and assisting with minor surgery, pharmacy and laboratory analysis, patient transportation and food service inspections.

Bishop is a 1999 graduate of Commonwealth Challenge High School and joined the Navy in February 2000.

Baniqued

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Sherwin B. Baniqued, son of Aurea C. and Antonio C. Baniqued of Chalmers Drive, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Risco, home-ported in Norfolk.

Baniqued's ship participated in several multi-national exercises including Veritas VI. These exercises focused on developing friendship, trust and teamwork between coalition nations and increased their combined military readiness for contingency operations. While participating in Veritas VI, an aircraft from USS Risco rescued 12 Moroccan airmen at sea.

Baniqued's ship visited cities in Israel and Spain where sailors had the opportunity to shop, sightsee and enjoy the local culture and cuisine. Crewmembers also participated in community relations projects.

Destroyers like Briscoe have traditionally been the workhorses of the U.S. Navy, defending battle groups against threats from land and sea. Equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles, Harpoon anti-ship missiles and Sea Sparrow Missiles, USS Briscoe is capable of hitting enemy targets hundreds of miles away. In addition, Briscoe's ship carries two helicopters with sonar and torpedo capabilities, expanding the ship's reach.

Baniqued is a 1989 graduate of Kempville High School and joined the Navy in October 1989.

Stoker

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Julius W. Stoker, whose wife, Lora, is the daughter of Nancy and Jeff Cranner of Cadbury Circle, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Saipan, home-ported in Norfolk.

During the deployment, Stoker's ship defended U.S. policy and supported international interests in the Middle East and Europe.

Stoker's ship visited cities in Croatia, Italy and Spain where sailors had the opportunity to shop, sightsee and enjoy the local culture and cuisine. Crewmembers also participated in community relations projects.

USS Saipan supports amphibious operations using landing craft air cushions, which are specially designed Hovercraft that travel above land and sea surfaces and deliver vehicles and equipment. The ship also has conventional landing craft and helicopters embarked, and is equipped with medical facilities staffed by Navy doctors, dentists, nurses and corpsmen.

Mathias

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Mathias, son of Debbie and John Mathias of Brentwood Crescent, recently visited Civitavecchia, Italy, while on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea while assigned to the dock landing ship USS Portland, home-ported in Little Creek.

During the visit, sailors from Mathias' ship had the opportunity to shop, sightsee and enjoy the local culture and cuisine. Crewmembers also participated in community relations projects.

USS Portland supports amphibious operations using landing craft air cushions, which are specially designed Hovercraft that travel above land and sea surfaces and deliver vehicles and equipment. The ship also has conventional landing craft and helicopters embarked, and is equipped with medical facilities staffed by Navy doctors, dentists, nurses and corpsmen.

Mathias is a 1986 graduate of Princess Anne High School and joined the Navy in July 1989; he is a 1986 graduate of St. Leo College, Fla., with associate's degree.

Emmons

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Aaron T. Emmons, a 1991 graduate of Kellam High School, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the attack submarine USS Albany, home-ported in Norfolk.

During the deployment, Emmons' submarine defended U.S. policy and supported international interests in the Middle East and Europe.

Emmons' submarine is one of the most sophisticated in the world. Equipped with torpedoes, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, Tomahawk cruise missiles, and mines, the powerful warship can provide surveillance and intelligence, support special operations and launch missiles at enemy ships or land targets.

Johnson

Navy Seaman Apprentice Christopher Johnson, a 1999 graduate of Salem High School, recently reported for duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman, home-ported in Norfolk.

Williams

Army Pfc. Donald K. Williams II had graduated from the power-generation equipment repair advanced individual training (AIT) course at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Aberdeen, Md.

During AIT, the soldier learned to perform maintenance, repair and overhauling functions on unit, direct support or general support power-generation equipment, such as tactical utility, precise power generation sets, internal combustion engines and associated components and equipment.

He is the son of retired Navy Chief Warrant Officer 2 Donald K. and Sarah E. Williams of Lord Dunmore Drive.

Williams received an associate degree in 1995 from ITT Technical Institute in Norfolk.

Robinson

Army Sgt. 1st Class Raleigh Robinson has been decorated with the Army Commendation Medal.

The medal is awarded to those individuals who demonstrate outstanding achievement or meritorious service in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Army.

Robinson is an ammunition manager with the 3rd Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, N.C. He is the son of Rosina Robinson of N. Wickhock Road.

West

Army Pvt. Christopher J. West has arrived for duty at Schofield Barracks in Oahu, Hawaii.

West is a network switching systems operator-maintainer assigned to the 125th Signal Battalion.

He is the son of James E. and Janet D. West of Northville Drive.

Madison

Army Reserve Pvt. Aaron M. Madison has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky. During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history and traditions.

He is the son of Melanie M. Madison of Glyndon Drive. Madison is a year 2000 graduate of Tallwood High School.

Pyatt

Army Pvt. Marcus J. Pyatt has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history and traditions.

He is the son of Marleen E. Pyatt of Emory Court and grandson of Viola Richardson of Camp Road in Charleston, S.C.

Miles

Army Spec. Albert E. Miles Jr. has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history and traditions.

Miles is the son of Rosetta Miles of Atlantis Drive and Albert E. Miles Sr. both of Virginia Beach.

Poyner

Army Pvt. Bernard W. Poyner has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Knox, Ky.

During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid and Army history and traditions.

Poyner is the son of Lorraine E. Poyner of Glenview Circle and Archie T. Poyner of Number Ten Lane in Chesapeake.

Learn how to save money on your child's college education

Concerned about your child's future? Learn how Virginia is offering families a convenient and affordable way to save for all college costs, including tuition, fees, room and board, textbooks and computers.

Gerry Barnard, a registered investment advisor and owner of B-4 Financial Planning, will present an informational program on the Virginia College Savings Plan at the Chesapeake Central Library at 298 Cedar Road, Tuesday, March 27, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

This program is free and open to the public. To register for this program or for more information, please call the Central Library at 382-6591.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate in any program offered by the Chesapeake Library System. For more information or assistance, please call the Chesapeake Central Library at 382-6591.

FOR THE GREAT UNWASHED...

The New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor (NYAIPC) began its special cleanliness program on Jan. 1, 1982, by opening the first public bath and washhouse in the county on Mott Street in New York City.

By offering either a free wash or bath, NYAIPC hoped to improve the condition of the less fortunate.

At the end of the year, some 80,000 persons had taken baths; only 10,000 had come in to wash.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Portsmouth Circuit Court in Commonwealth of Virginia, in re: MARGARET W. MASSEY, et al v. MILDRED PLATT DANIELS et al

Case No. CH-93000332-00

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to partition certain real property located in the City of Portsmouth, Virginia, which was purchased at public auction on June 4, 1951, by Jerry Freeman, Ernest Bell, James Platt, Irene Woodard and Frank B. Harris. The heirs of BENJAMIN ERVIN RUSSELL, deceased (the son of Jeremiah Russell and Ella Mable Merritt), are parties to this action.

It is ORDERED that the unknown heirs of BENJAMIN ERVIN RUSSELL appear at the above-named court and protect his interests on or before April 2, 2001.

Dated: January 22, 2001

Yvonne B. Lewis

Attorney for the Plaintiffs

6-4 413-2

Public Notice

PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia will hold a public hearing on use permit, rezoning and street closure applications on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, at 7 P.M., in the City Council Chambers, sixth floor of City Hall, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia.

(a) UP-01-03 PRENTISS PARK / BRIGHTON NEIGHBORHOOD - Request of Stephen I. Boone & Assoc. to operate a gas station at 1428 Effingham Street. The property is described as Tax Map 53, Parcels 60 and 61. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.

(b) UP-01-04 PORT NORFOLK NEIGHBORHOOD - Request of Church of the Lord Jesus Christ to operate a church at 2613 Detroit Street. The property is described as Tax Map 34, Parcel 27. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED DENIAL.

(c) Z-01-03 MAYFLOWER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD - Request of Holy Communion Lutheran Church, for a rezoning from RS-75 to OR-75-K at 6224 Portsmouth Boulevard. The property is described as Tax Map 625, a portion of Parcel 33. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.

(d) S-01-01 DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD - Request of Robert E. Brown to close Cassell Avenue between Confederate Street and Harbor Drive. PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDED APPROVAL. Information relative to the above described items is available for inspection in the Community Quality and Planning Services Department, Division of Planning and Zoning, fourth floor of City Hall, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia, during regular office hours.

THE CITY HALL BUILDING, WHICH IS THE REGULAR MEETING PLACE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, IS PHYSICALLY ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE DISABLED AND REQUIRE A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL, PLEASE NOTIFY CITY CLERK DEBRA WHITE AT 393-8639 TO ADVISE HER OF YOUR NEED AT LEAST 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING.

Debra Y. White, CMC/AE
City Clerk

8-1 213-2

Public Notice

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

on the 1st day of February, 2001

J. RIDGELY PORTER, III, Administrator c.t.a. under the will of Rafeord Bizzell-Langdon, deceased, Complainant v.

GRACE ELIZABETH BRADSHAW, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is Shepherd of the Valley, Room 504, 1500 McKinley Avenue, Niles, Ohio 44446

and ROBERT GRAHAM LANGDON, JR., a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is 661 West King Street, Boone, North Carolina 28607

and DONALD W. LANGDON, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is 210 Orange Grove Road, Palm Beach, Florida 33480

and CHARLES R. LANGDON, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is 1231 Fairway Drive, Boone, North Carolina 28607

and THERESA P. MOSTELLER, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is Route 1, Box 142-A Vilas, North Carolina 28692

and GORDON D. SIMS, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is 750 Timberline Place, Fairfield, California 94585

and JOSEPH SIMS, if he be living, and his heirs and devisees, if he be dead, a non resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose last known address is unknown

and UNKNOWN PARTIES, Defendants

IN CHANCERY DOCKET NO. C-01-87

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of the above-styled suit is to secure the aid and direction of the Court in the interpretation of the will of RAFEORD BIZZELL LANGDON to ascertain who are the beneficiaries under the will, to determine whether or not there was a partial intestacy, to determine the validity of the deletion of GLADYS L. SIMS as a beneficiary, to determine the validity or non validity of the addition of DONALD LANGDON as a beneficiary, and to order any fractional distribution of the estate which may be appropriate either under the will or by intestate succession in order that J. RIDGELY PORTER, III, Administrator c.t.a. under the will of RAFEORD BIZZELL LANGDON, may conclude and/or distribute the assets of the estate under his supervision and control.

And it appearing by Affidavit filed according to law that GRACE ELIZABETH BRADSHAW, ROBERT GRAHAM LANGDON, JR., DONALD W. LANGDON, CHARLES R. LANGDON, THERESA P. MOSTELLER, GORDON D. SIMS and JOSEPH SIMS, if he be living, and his heirs and devisees, if he be dead, are not residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that there may be UNKNOWN PARTIES it is ORDERED that the said GRACE ELIZABETH BRADSHAW, ROBERT GRAHAM LANGDON, JR., DONALD W. LANGDON, CHARLES R. LANGDON, THERESA P. MOSTELLER, GORDON D. SIMS and JOSEPH SIMS, if he be living, and his heirs and devisees, if he be dead, or any other person or persons claiming an interest in the estate of the late RAFEORD BIZZELL LANGDON, deceased appear by pleading or in person on or before the 13th day of April, 2001, in the Circuit Court of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia, at the Courthouse thereof, located at 601 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704 and do what is necessary to protect their interests.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order be published once a week for four successive weeks in The Portsmouth Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Portsmouth; that a copy of this Order be posted at the front door of the courthouse wherein this court is held; and that a copy of this Order be mailed to each of the Defendants at the addresses shown by the aforesaid Affidavit.

Susan R. Neapoli, D.C.
I ask for this:
Nancy C. Auth, p.q.
Counsel for J. Ridgely Porter, III, Administrator c.t.a. under the will of Rafeord Bizzell Langdon, deceased

CARR & PORTER LLC
J. Ridgely Porter, III (VSB# 14292)

Nancy C. Auth (VSB#40915)
Kelly Daniels-Sheeran (VSB# 38105)

Robert C. Scaro (VSB# 43171)
355 Crawford Parkway, Suite 520
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704
Telephone: (757) 393-6018

6-5 413-2

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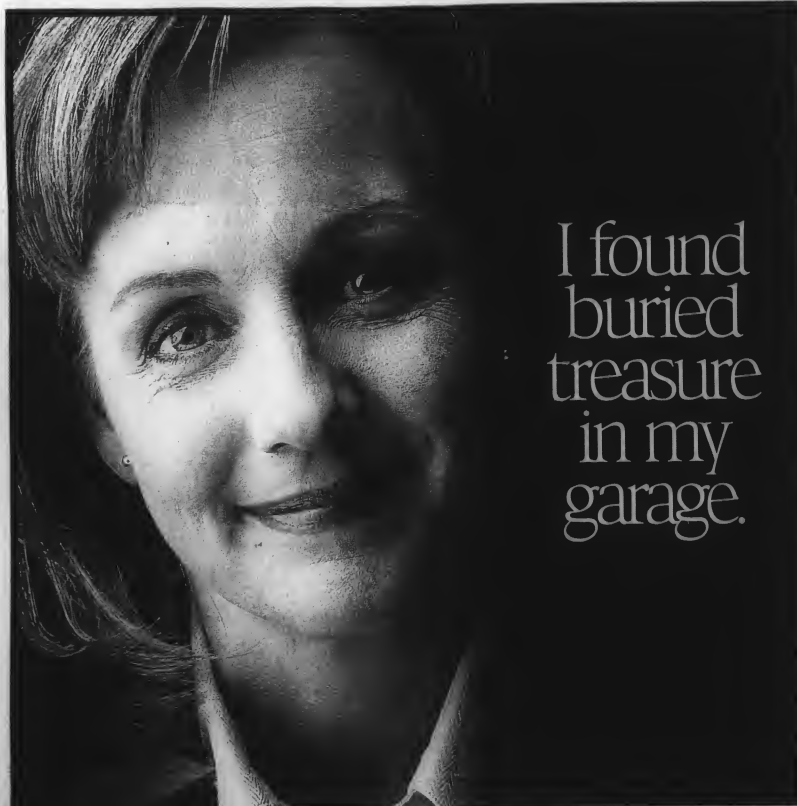
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Reflections

A recent sunset at the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge gives a hint of warmer weather. The refuge is located at the end of Sandbridge Road in Virginia Beach. —Photo by Richard Anderson



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in my
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More than 40 years ago Grandma gave you some Series E Savings Bonds.

So you put them in a safe place and forgot about them—until now You were cleaning out boxes of junk when you found an unexpected treasure instead... those old Series E Savings Bonds.

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ask for a current values chart. Old Savings Bonds

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Do you have old Savings Bonds? Check out the Savings Bond Calculator at www.savingsbonds.gov to discover their value.

VFW Post 2894 to hold next meeting March 6

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Chesapeake Post 2894 meets regularly the first Tuesday of the month. The meeting is held at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 280 at 469 N. Battlefield Blvd. Greatbridge.

The next meeting is March 6. The VFW is dedicated to: provide information to veterans, participate in programs to benefit the city and assist members in need. Eligibility for membership

is based on honorable service in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard by persons who have served in any foreign war, insurrection or expedition.

Join by attending scheduled meeting, contacting any member, calling Commander Jack Hayes at 421-7385, Don Nowak, 482-4030 or Leonard M. Kilian, Q.M. at 547-8656.

Tickets on sale now for the Ruritans chicken dinners

The Ruritan Chicken Box Dinner: The Deep Creek Ruritan Club will hold a chicken box dinner Saturday, March 17 from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Deep Creek Ruritan Clubhouse.

Advance tickets can be purchased from any Ruritan club member, at Bill Robin's CPA office or Meligs Hardware, both on George Washington Hwy. Tickets are \$5 each for eat-in or take-out orders, and deliveries

are available on orders of ten or more.

Eddie Smith and his bluegrass band will entertain during the event. Money raised will be used to pay for the club's community service projects, such as scholarships for seniors at Deep Creek High School, the after-prom party, and sponsorship of youth recreation league sports teams.

Annual Polar Plunge event raised \$260,000 to benefit Special Olympics

More than 2,100 people took a chilling plunge into the Atlantic Ocean to benefit Special Olympics Virginia on Feb. 3 at the ninth annual Polar Plunge Winter Festival. They raised over \$260,000.

This year's honorary chairman was the infamous Rudy Boesch from TV's "Survivor". This all day event started at 11 a.m., and was held at 7th and Atlantic Ave. in Virginia Beach. The winter festival included live performances by Carbon Leaf and Virginia Coalition, rides and games, food, and a hair cut-a-thon by Hair Cuttery. The Polar Plunge itself happened after the wedding of Erica Bershadsky and Ken Noe. Minimum pledge neces-

sary for the bragging rights of jumping in the ocean in February was \$50.

This year's plunge exceeded all goals; since 1992, the Polar Plunge has raised over \$800,000 for Special Olympics Virginia with more than 6,000 people taking the plunge! Sponsors of this event included Cox Communications, The Coast 93.7, SunCom, Net2000 Communications, P&G, Mobil, Mahi Mah's, Ramada Inn on the Beach and Hair Cuttery.

Polar Plunge X is scheduled for February 2. For more information call Special Olympics Virginia at (800) 932-4653 or go to www.polarplunge.com.

Local students honored for academic achievements

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Students from the Hampton Roads area have been honored at Lipscomb University for academic achievement during the fall semester, said Dr. Craig Bledsoe, provost.

Lydia Cuthrell has been named to the Provost's List for earning perfect grades while taking 12 credit hours or more during the semester. Cuthrell, of Little Lake Court in Virginia Beach, is an English major. Cuthrell is a graduate of Frank W. Cox High School.

Jesse Cuthrell has been named to

the Honor Roll for earning a grade-point average between 3.5 to 3.99 for the semester. Cuthrell, of Little Lake Court, is a management major. Cuthrell is a graduate of First Colonial High School.

Students at Lipscomb University earn bachelor's degrees in more than 100 major programs of study and master's degrees in Bible, education, and business administration. An Accelerated Adult Degree Program offers bachelor's degree studies during the evenings and weekends.

Salvation Army appoints new officers

The Salvation Army has appointed Captains Joe and Kathy Jo Burton to succeed Majors Douglas and Wanda Browning as the Hampton Roads/Peninsula Commanding Officers.

The Burton's most recent appointment was as Corps Officers for The Salvation Army in Staunton. The Brownings have assumed the position of Directors of

the Harbortlight Center in Washington, D.C.

The Salvation Army is an international movement and an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the bible. Its ministry motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

School Notes

■ Creeds Elementary School congratulates the following staff member for being chosen for the weekly "I Make A Difference Award." Katie Armscud.

■ Carol McMichael, first grade teacher at Creeds Elementary, was "Tagged by the Superintendent" for her effectiveness and efficiency. Her exceptional performance on the job helps in making the work environment a pleasure for all.

■ Creeds Elementary School congratulates the following staff member for being chosen for the weekly "I Make A Difference Award." Robyn Alexander.

■ Beach Middle Steppers take second place in the 14th annual step competition held at Brandon Middle School.

■ Thirty-eight percent of Beach Middle students made the honor roll for the second grading period. The following students made the Principal List: 6th grade - Roadrunners -

Tiahna Bird, Adam McElhancey, Helen Gregory, Ryan Risney, Toucans - Britney Davidson, Kristen Keith, Reid Killen, Stephanie Bair, April Gilmore; 7th grade - Dolphin - Leah English, Alex Hardee, Eliza Woodward, Shark - Suhani Patel, Philip Bailey, Jacquelyn Duval, Chase Hathaway, Wesley Pearce, Emily Sekulic; 8th grade - Lion - Joseph Arcese, Aliyyah Barnes, Matthew Hcoley, Crystal Campbell, Porsche Farr, Tiger - Lauren Evert, Charlotte Howell, Walter Howell, Connie Barnes, Kirsten Jackson.

■ Beach Middle would like to recognize its 2000-2001 Volleyball Team - Coach Mark Louinville - Emily Ludwig - 8th grade seuer, Amber Alcaraz - 8th grade hitter, Jackie Douvall - 7th grade hitter, Lisa Woodward - 7th grade hitter, and Kelly Jones - 7th grade hitter. Good Luck Ladies.